

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method of synthesizing carbon nanotubes, comprising the steps of:
2 introducing a catalyst in a reactor;
3 supplying a reactant gas containing a carbon source gas over the catalyst;
4 selectively and locally heating the catalyst in the reactor; and
5 growing carbon nanotubes from the heated catalyst.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the catalyst is formed of a transition
2 metal such as iron, nickel or cobalt; metal sulfide, metal carbide, metal oxide or
3 metal salt of the transition metal; or an organic compound containing the transition
4 metal.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the catalyst is loaded on a support by
2 an impregnation method, an incipient wetness method or an ion-exchange method
3 and is supplied into the reactor in a powder state.

1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the catalyst is loaded on a substrate
2 by a deposition method, a painting method and a spray method to be supplied into
3 the reactor.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein for the catalyst, a metal precursor is
2 loaded on a substrate or a support and changed into a metal phase through
3 reduction, calcination, sulfiding or carbonization, and the metal catalyst is supplied
4 into the reactor.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein for the catalyst, metal sulfide obtained
2 by sulfiding a metal precursor with hydrogen sulfide is used.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the catalyst is supplied into the reactor
2 in the form of a catalyst precursor in gas phase.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the catalyst precursor is ferrocene or
2 iron pentacarbonyl.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein the carbon source gas contains one
2 selected from the group consisting of acetylene, methane, propane and benzene.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the reactant gas further comprises
2 hydrogen gas or inert gas.

1 11. The method of claim 1, wherein the reactant gas further comprises
2 hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) gas.

1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the local heating of the catalyst is
2 performed by irradiation of microwaves.

1 13. The method of claim 1, wherein the local heating of the catalyst is
2 performed by electromagnetic inductive heating.

1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein the local heating of the catalyst is
2 performed by laser heating.

1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein the local heating of the catalyst is
2 performed by radio frequency heating.

1 16. An apparatus for synthesizing carbon nanotubes, comprising:
2 a reactor for receiving a catalyst;
3 a reactant gas supplier for supplying a carbon source gas into the reactor;
4 and
5 a local heater for selectively heating the catalyst received in the reactor.